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Appl. No. 09/160,635  
Reply to Office Action of April 27, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended): An implant for controlled, sustained drug release comprising:

a pharmacologically acceptable biodegradable polymer which is degraded at the site of implantation, wherein said biodegradable polymer comprises at least about 20 weight percent of the implant;

a first therapeutically active agent at a concentration from 10 to 50 weight percent of the implant;

a release modulator comprising hydroxy-propylmethylcellulose at a concentration from 10 to 50 weight percent of the implant, and said release modulator further comprising a second therapeutically active agent having a different activity than the first therapeutically active agent;

wherein said implant is an anhydrous solid structure which is degraded at the site of implantation and releases said first therapeutically active agent within a therapeutic dosage which does not vary by more than about 100% for a period of at least about 3 days after implantation;

wherein said anhydrous solid structure is a particle, sheet, plaque, fiber, microcapsule or disc.

11-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) An implant according to claim 10, wherein said first therapeutically active agent is a steroid and

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said second therapeutically active agent is a water soluble antibiotic.

17. (Previously presented) An implant according to claim 10, wherein said first therapeutically active agent is a non-steroidal antiinflammatory drug and said second therapeutically active agent is a water soluble antibiotic.

18. (Previously presented) An implant according to claim 10 wherein said biodegradable polymer is poly-lactic acid glycolic acid copolymer.

19. (Currently amended) An implant for controlled, sustained drug release comprising:

poly-lactic acid glycolic acid copolymer at a concentration of at least about 20 weight percent of the implant;

a therapeutically active antiinflammatory drug at a concentration from 10 to 50 weight percent of the implant;

a release modulator comprising hydroxy-propylmethylcellulose at a concentration from 10 to 50 weight percent of the implant [[:]] said release modulator further comprising a second therapeutically active agent having a different activity than the antiinflammatory drug;

wherein said implant is an anhydrous solid structure which releases said therapeutically active antiinflammatory within a therapeutic dosage that does not vary by more than about 100% for a period of at least about 3 days.

20. (Currently amended) An implant for controlled, sustained drug release comprising:

poly-lactic acid glycolic acid copolymer at a concentration of at least about 20 weight percent of the implant;

a therapeutically active steroid at a concentration from 10 to 50 weight percent of the implant;

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a release modulator comprising hydroxy-propylmethylcellulose at a concentration from 10 to 50 weight percent of the implant, and said release modulator further comprising a second therapeutically active agent having a different activity than the steroid;

wherein said implant is an anhydrous solid structure which is degraded at the site of implantation and releases said therapeutically active steroid within a therapeutic dosage which does not vary by more than about 100% for a period of at least about 3 days after implantation.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously presented) An implant according to claim 20, wherein said anhydrous solid structure is a particle, sheet, patch, plaque, fiber, microcapsule or disc.

23. (Currently amended) An implant according to claim 20 wherein said ~~release modulator further comprises a~~ second therapeutically active agent is a hydrophilic compound.

24. (Previously presented) An implant according to claim 23 wherein said second therapeutically active agent is a water soluble antibiotic.

25. (Currently amended) An implant for controlled, sustained drug release comprising:

poly-lactic acid glycolic acid copolymer at a concentration of at least about 20 weight percent of the implant;

a therapeutically active non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug at a concentration from 10 to 50 weight percent of the implant;

a release modulator comprising hydroxy-propylmethylcellulose at a concentration from 10 to 50 weight percent of the implant, and the release modulator further comprising a second

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therapeutically active agent having a different activity than the therapeutically active non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug;

wherein said implant is an anhydrous solid structure which releases said therapeutically active non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug within a therapeutic dosage which does not vary by more than about 100% for a period of at least about 3 days after implantation.

26-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) An implant according to claim 25, wherein said ~~release modulator further comprises a~~ second therapeutically active agent is a hydrophilic compound.

29. (Previously presented) An implant according to claim 28, wherein said second therapeutically active agent is a water soluble antibiotic.

30-43. (Cancelled).